

Remarks

Applicants' representative appreciates the recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 4 and 7 - 9 and 24. Applicants' representative appreciates the examiner's interview of October 21, 2004, in which the Bertram and Du references were discussed.

I. Double Patenting.

The terminal disclaimer that accompanies this response obviates the double patenting rejection.

Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 - 18.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Pending claims 5, 6, and 8 relate to a personal computer system. The personal computer system includes a first input device and a second input device that is different from the first input device. The personal computer system further includes a buffer that receives relative data from the first and second input devices.

Bertram relates to a computer system with touchpad support. Beatram's touchpad 19 is an *absolute pointing device* that maps a coordinate location on the touchpad surface to a specific location. See Bertram, col. 2, lines 3 - 27 and col. 15, lines 19 - 33. Bertram touchpad does not generate relative data. *Id.* Beatram's joysticks 20a and 20b are switch-closure devices that have *different* data packet structures from known coordinate devices (e.g., mice) or are other structures like potentiometer-based devices. See Bertram, col. 5, line 66 - col. 6, line 2; col. 14, lines 64 - col. 15, line 11 and col. 17, line 65 - col. 18, line 47.

Bertram does not disclose a buffer that receives *relative data* from *two different input devices*. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 5, 6, and 8.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103.

A. Claims 1 - 3.

Pending claims 1 - 3 relate to a personal computer system having a plurality of different input devices. A buffer receives data from the first input device and the second input device, which allow the input devices to be used simultaneously.

Bertram relates to a computer system with touchpad support. Beatram's touchpad 19 is an *absolute pointing device* that maps a coordinate location on the touchpad surface to a specific location. See Bertram, col. 2, lines 3 - 27 and col. 15, lines 19 - 33.

Beatram's joysticks 20a and 20b are switch-closure devices that have *different* data packet structures from known coordinate devices (e.g., mice) or are other structures like potentiometer-based devices. See Bertram, col. 5, line 66 - col. 6, line 2; col. 14, lines 64 - col. 15, line 11 and col. 17, line 65 - col. 18, line 47.

Beatram does not disclose or suggest a system in which both input devices may be used simultaneously. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 - 3.

B. Claims 19, 20, 23, 25 - 33, 42 - 46.

Pending claims 19, 20, 23, 25 - 33, 42 - 46 relate to a dual pointing device having a pointing device or a touch pad. The pointing device and touch pad each comprise a relative pointing device and an absolute pointing device.

Bertram relates to a computer system having touchpad support. Beatram's touchpad 19 is an absolute pointing device. See Bertram, col. 2, lines 3 - 27 and col. 15, lines 19 - 33. A movement sensed through Beatram's touchpad surface is not linked to a relative movement across the surface of the touchpad 19. *Id.* Instead, movement across the touchpad surface is linked to an absolute coordinate position. *Id.* Bertram touchpad does not comprise a relative pointing device.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request with the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 19, 20, 23, 25 - 33, and 42 - 46.

C. Claims 47, 49, and 50.

Claims 47, 49, and 50 relate to methods of processing data. The methods embed identifying data when a command from a device drive is received through a serial port.

Bertram describes a computer system having touchpad support. In Bertram, identifying data is added to default device numbers as packets of data are passed from one device to the next. See Bertram, col. 16, line 21 - col. 18, line 65. Identifying data is not embedded in a data stream *in response to a command* received from a device driver. Instead, identification occurs with the passing of data packets from the input devices.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request with the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 47, 49, and 50.

D. Claim 20.

Claim 20 is directed to dual pointing device that includes a first pointing device and a second pointing device. The first pointing device comprises a first relative pointing device and an absolute pointing device. The second pointing device comprises a second relative pointing device.

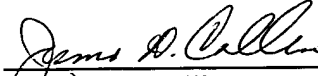
Du relates to a touch-pad. In Du, touchpads 20 “provide relative rather than absolute control over a cursor’s position.” See Du, col. 2, lines 4 - 9. External auxiliary input devices 278, comprise “a mouse or trackball.” See Du, col. 10, lines 26 - 29. A mouse or trackball is a relative pointing device as its motion or placement on a surface does not map directly to a location. Du does not disclose a device that comprises a relative pointing device and an absolute pointing device.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 20.

IV. Conclusion.

In view of the remarks and amendments above, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain, Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,



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